

TOWN OF HERNDON

Enriching the Quality of Life and Promoting a Sense of Community



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HERNDON MAYOR PROVIDES COMMENT TO NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY *Remarks Call for Towns to Have Direct NVTa Representation*

Herndon, VA (May 11, 2007) – Stephen J. DeBenedittis, mayor of the Town of Herndon, spoke before a meeting of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) on Thursday evening, May 10, urging direct representation of Towns on the NVTa as well as implementation of the Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC), an adjunct body designed to give towns a voice in the region's transportation deliberations.

“A voting member – most appropriately a mayoral representative – representing Northern Virginia towns on the NVTa seems appropriate to contribute to regional decisions on taxation, as well as to properly advocate the respective transportation programs and needs of towns,” DeBenedittis said during his remarks, heard as part of an NVTa meeting at which public comment was solicited. Mayors from the towns of Dumfries, Leesburg, Purcellville and Vienna also provided comment at the meeting, which was held at George Mason High School in Falls Church.

DeBenedittis' comments related to the passage of Virginia House Bill 3202, which provides NVTa with significant powers to tax citizens but mandates that towns must work through their respective counties for NVTa support. Additionally, DeBenedittis pointed out,

although the legislation intends for towns to be represented through the PCAC, NVTA bylaws give the PCAC no specific composition or role in relation to the NVTA.

“It is the desire of the towns of Herndon, Dumfries, Leesburg, Purcellville and Vienna, all of which maintain our own streets, to work cooperatively with the NVTA members to promote various town transportation programs, and we encourage your implementation of the PCAC,” DeBenedittis said.

The complete text of DeBenedittis’ remarks is attached.

The Town of Herndon was incorporated by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 14, 1879. Located in western Fairfax County, Herndon is the 3rd largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 23,000 citizens. Businesses located within the Town of Herndon, which range from high tech enterprises to entrepreneurially-owned establishments, employ approximately 23,500 people. In 2006, Herndon was named one of the “best affordable suburbs” in the nation by *Business Week* Magazine.

For more information, visit the Town’s website at www.herndon-va.gov.

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